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LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY
150 NORTH 3RD STREET, STE 200
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70801
(225) 342-1700
(225) 342-1726 FAX
www.lra.louisiana.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eligible HMGP Applicants

FROM: Paul Rainwater *Paul W. Rainwater*
Executive Director

DATE: May 29, 2008

RE: HMGP Allocations and Funding Opportunity

2008 – DR # 1603 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Distribution and Application Information

As part of the State of Louisiana's recovery efforts from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the State Office of Community Development (OCD) was allocated \$1.1 billion in HMGP funds to perform hazard mitigation work as part of the Road Home Program. In March 2008 as mitigation projections for the Road Home program became more defined, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) HMGP team and OCD staff determined that OCD would only need to retain an allocation of \$750 million dollars for Road Home uses and that the remaining allocation of funds could be returned to GOHSEP for use in the "Traditional" HMGP program. On May 1, 2008, GOHSEP briefed Paul Rainwater, Executive Director of the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) on these actions and discussed options and prioritization strategies for the remaining uncommitted hazard mitigation allocation. The LRA agreed with the recommendation of GOHSEP. Similar to other Katrina / Rita disaster recovery fund allocations, these allocations must be submitted to the LRA Board of Directors at the board meeting on June 10, 2008 for consideration. If these actions are approved by the LRA board, GOHSEP will then proceed with this allocation and refer to it as the "2008 DR 1603 Allocations". The distribution will be as follows:

2008 DR 1603 Allocations

- \$100 million in State Agency projects, most of which will go toward coastal restoration and protecting critical roads.
- \$74 million in statewide competitive projects for all eligible HMGP applicants (which includes local jurisdictions, State Agencies, certain private non-profit organizations and federally recognized Indian tribes).
- \$64 million to parishes (\$1 million to each parish)
- \$22 million – to the eleven (11) most impacted parishes with each receiving an additional \$2 million. These parishes are: Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Calcasieu, Plaquemines, Vermilion, Terrebonne, Cameron, Washington and Iberia.

Based on the LRA's intentions concerning the HMGP, the "2008 DR 1603 Allocations" are weighted in favor of more grant dollars being awarded to local jurisdictions. Future allocations of Katrina / Rita HMGP funding will also be weighted in this manner. The following information should be helpful to eligible applicants interested in applying for a portion of the \$ 74 million Statewide Competitive project allocation:

- The \$74m statewide competitive projects allocation is for all eligible HMGP applicants in the state.
- Eligible applicants, include parish, municipal and local jurisdictions, State Agencies, certain private non-profit organizations and federally-recognized Native American tribes are invited to compete for these funds.
- The distribution of funds within the competitive projects allocation will be funded as follows:
 - \$29.6 million for elevations, acquisitions and reconstructions (40 percent);
 - \$29.6 million for drainage projects (40 percent);
 - \$14.8 million for other projects, such as hardening critical facilities / infrastructure, safe rooms, etc... (20 percent).
- Should eligible State Agency projects equal less than the \$100 million allocation, each remaining increment of \$2 million will be made available to the next most impacted parish, which are in order: Tangipahoa, Lafourche, Beauregard, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, St. Charles, Livingston, St. Mary, St. John the Baptist, Vernon, Allen, East Baton Rouge, Assumption, Ascension, Lafayette, St. Martin, St. James, St. Landry, St. Helena, Iberville, Sabine, Evangeline, East Feliciana, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana and Rapides. Any remaining amount that totals less than \$2 million will be added to the statewide competitive projects allocation.
- Should an eligible applicant from one of the other allocations not submit an application for their full 2008 DR 1603 Allocation amount by July 31, 2008 their allocated portion will be placed in the competitive projects allocation and be distributed according to the 40/40/20 ratio identified above.

To apply agencies must complete:

1. A **Letter of Interest (LOI)** sent to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer, **postmarked by June 13, 2008**. The LOI should state the applicant's interest in participating, identify prospective projects with a short description, and identify an estimated total cost of each project (see attached blank LOI). The LOI should be addressed as follows:

D. Casey Levy
State Hazard Mitigation Officer
415 North 15th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

or submitted as an attachment via e-mail to: clevy@ohsep.louisiana.gov

2. **Applications** may be submitted to GOHSEP either through E-grants or by filling out the Louisiana HMGP application.
3. For E-grants details please call the FEMA E-grants helpdesk at 1 866-476-0544 or go to <https://portal.fema.gov>.
4. For a hardcopy of the Louisiana HMGP application, please go to http://www.ohsep.louisiana.gov/mitigation/LAHMGPAp7_14.Doc. Instructions for completing the Louisiana HMGP application will be added to the GOHSEP website by June 4, 2008.
5. Either form of application must be submitted in hardcopy form by July 31, 2008 (post marked no later than this date if delivered by mail). This must include an original and four (4) copies. Send the applications to Casey Levy, at the address listed under number 3 above.
6. A statewide **Video Teleconference Applicant Briefing** will be provided to all eligible applicants at a date soon after the June 10, 2008 LRA Board Meeting. We will provide details on the VTC by e-mail and on the GOHSEP website no later than June 6, 2008.
7. Competitive Projects will be scored according to the following: BCA, number of structures protected, number of Repetitive Loss structures protected, the number of Severe Repetitive Loss structures protected, whether or not a project has been scoped under the Pilot Planning Grant Program. Scoring will be as follows:
 - a. **Benefit-Cost Analysis** - All projects will be evaluated and given a Benefit-Cost Ratio. All elevation, acquisition and reconstruction projects will be ranked from highest ratio to the lowest. The highest ranking project will be assigned ten (10) points; the lowest project will be assigned one (1) point. Projects between the two scores will be assigned points, depending on where they fall between highest and lowest ranking projects. Drainage projects and other eligible projects will be scored on their own, using the same system.
 - b. **Number of Structures Protected** – All projects will be evaluated by the total number of structures protected. All elevation, acquisition and reconstruction projects will be ranked from the highest number of structures protected to the least number of structures protected. The highest ranking project will be assigned ten (10) points; the lowest project will be assigned one (1) point. Projects between the two scores will be assigned points, depending on where they fall between highest and lowest ranking

projects. Drainage projects and other eligible projects will be scored on their own, using the same system.

- c. **Number of Repetitive Loss Structures Protected** – The same scoring mechanism identified for Benefit-Cost Analysis and number of structures protected will be used for the number of repetitive loss structures protected.
- d. **Number of Severe Repetitive Loss Structures Protected** - The same scoring mechanism identified for Benefit-Cost Analysis and number of structures protected will be used for the number of severe repetitive loss structures protected.
- e. **Planning Pilot Grant Program (PPGP)**- Projects scoped and approved under the PPGP will receive two (2) additional points.

8. GOHSEP is willing to provide technical assistance to all eligible applicants preparing applications. Please direct requests for assistance or any other questions or concerns regarding the LOIs or HMGP projects to Karen Ellis at kellis@ohsep.louisiana.gov or (225) 267-2606.

What is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?

The purpose of the HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. Mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural disasters and their effects. The HMGP is authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

HMGP funds may be used to fund projects that will reduce or eliminate the losses from future disasters. Projects must conform to the State and Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and provide a long-term solution to a problem. In addition, a project's potential savings must be more than the cost of implementing the project. Funds may be used to protect either public or private property that has been subjected to, or is in danger of, repetitive damage. The eligible types of projects are:

- * Acquisition – Either demolishing or relocating flood-prone properties and returning the property to open space.
- * Pilot Reconstruction – Demolishing and rebuilding flood prone properties on their original footprint at or above the Base Flood Elevation (or Advisory Base Flood Elevation).
- * Elevation – The structure is raised with a higher first floor, allowing floodwater to flow under the building rather than through it.
- * Retrofit – Retrofitting existing buildings and facilities to minimize damage from high winds, flooding, earthquakes, and other hazards.
- * Minor structural flood control projects/ Stormwater management
- * Floodwall systems to protect critical facilities
- * Vegetative management/soil stabilization
- * Infrastructure protection measures
- * Post-disaster code enforcement activities
- * Hazard Mitigation Planning

State Agency Allocations

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|---|-----------------------------|
| Department of Natural Resources: | \$50,000,000 |
| Department of Transportation and Development: | \$33,500,000 |
| Department of Agriculture and Forestry: | \$ 4,195,000 |
| State Fire Marshal: | \$ 2,150,000 |
| State Military Department / L.A. National Guard: | <u>\$10,610,000</u> |
| Total Allocation to State Agencies: | <u>\$100,455,000</u> |